



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING




MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 26, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Resolution for the Days of Remembrance of the
Victims of the Holocaust

Attached is a draft resolution for the Days of Remembrance of
the Victims of the Holocaust.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the
resolution for the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the
Holocaust, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum
dated March 26, 2007.

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RESOLUTION

FOR THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims – six million were murdered; Gypsies, people with disabilities, and Poles also were targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Board of Education encourages school districts to include instruction as part of their social studies curriculum related to historic violations of human dignity including discrimination, persecution or crimes against humanity; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity for students to learn about a significant documented event, and to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the State of Michigan always should remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress established *Days of Remembrance* as our nation's annual commemoration of victims of the Holocaust, just as the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is our permanent living memorial to those victims; and

WHEREAS, this year the National Holocaust Remembrance Day is Sunday, April 15, 2007, and the Holocaust Memorial Museum has designated "*Children in Crisis: Voices from the Holocaust*" as the focus for the 2007 observance; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Michigan has proclaimed the week of April 15, 2007, through April 22, 2007, as Days of Remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education encourages the people of the State of Michigan to set aside time to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and be it finally

RESOLVED, The State Board of Education proclaims that we, as citizens, should strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.